

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-32 (Cancelled)

33. (Currently amended) A unidirectionally elastic bandage, with adhesive on one side, for supporting joints, comprising

a backing layer which is unidirectionally elastic in one direction selected from the group consisting of longitudinal direction and transverse direction and non-elastic in the other direction ~~and the opposite direction to the unidirectional elastic direction~~ ~~part of the backing layer is non-elastic,~~

an adhesive layer, and

a releasable protective layer;

characterized in that the bandage is embodied as a segment with elastic areas and has an elasticity in the elastic areas of the backing layer in the range of 20% to 150%,

characterized in that the bandage segment is transversely elastic or longitudinally elastic,

characterized in that the adhesive is applied across the entire surface of backing layer or on a part of the underside of the backing layer or in the form of patterns; and

characterized in that one or more defined areas of the segment are elastic and the segment also contain non-elastic areas, wherein the one or more defined areas of the segment which are elastic are surrounded by non-elastic areas.

- 34-35. (Cancelled)

- 36. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 33, characterized in that the elasticity of the backing layer lies in the range of between 20% and 80%.
- 37. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 36, characterized in that the elasticity of the backing layer lies in the range of between 40% and 70%.
- 38. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 37, characterized in that the elasticity of the backing layer lies in the range of between 44% and 56%.
- 39. (Cancelled)
- 40. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 33, characterized in that the adhesive composed of self-adhesive polymers is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, silicones and polyisobutylenes.
- 41. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 40, characterized in that the elasticity of the backing layer lies in the range of between 44% and 56%.
- 42. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 41, characterized in that the backing layer is microbiologically nondegradable to an extent of more than 90%.
- 43. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 42, characterized in that the backing layer is microbiologically nondegradable to an extent of more than 99%.

44. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 33, characterized in that the backing layer is breathable and allows water vapor to pass through.
45. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 42, characterized in that of the backing layer is a woven fabric or a film or a combination of both made from viscose, polyester, polyamide, cotton or elastane.
46. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 45, characterized in that the backing layer is a polymer material is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and polyester.
47. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 46, characterized in that the material of the backing layer is polyalkylene terephthalates.
48. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 45, characterized in that the porosity of the film is in the range of 10 to 50%.
49. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 45, characterized in that the backing layer has a warp number in the range of 300-350, and a weft number in the range of 100-140.
50. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 49, characterized in that the backing layer has a warp number in the range of 310-330 and a weft number in the range of 120-130.
51. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 33, characterized in that the bandage segment is rectangular with a side ratio of length to width of 1.2:1 to 1.8:1.

52. (Previously presented) A method for producing unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage segments as claimed in claim 33, said method comprising the following steps: coating silicone-treated paper/film with adhesive-containing solution, covering the laminate of releasable paper/film and adhesive layer with the unidirectionally elastic backing layer, and punching the bandage segments out from narrow or wide rolls.
53. (Previously presented) The unidirectionally elastic adhesive bandage as claimed in claim 50, characterized in that the bandage segment is rectangular with a side ratio of length to width of 1.2:1 to 1.8:1.